

Inaugural Notes

By MILTON BERLINER

The Texas State Society of Washington sold 6000 tickets (at \$5 each) for the reception honoring Vice President-elect and Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, and apparently everyone came.

At 6 p. m. when House Speaker Sam Rayburn, Mrs. C. P. Cabell, society president, and Mr. Johnson took their places in the receiving line—Lady Bird was a little late—the formation of guests backed from the mezzanine, down the main stairway, thru the hotel lobby, out the K-st entrance and around the corner along 16th-st.

The driveway entrance that cuts from K to L-st was relatively clear, but it took a White House credential to get thru the heavy police detail.

The extra security measures were in force because President-elect Kennedy dropped in to greet Speaker Rayburn and the Johnsons.

Tanned and looking very fit, Mr. Kennedy took a place in the receiving line himself, shaking hands for almost 15 minutes.

Despite their preoccupation with the inaugural program, Democrats haven't lost sight of the political niceties.

After The Georgetown University and Howard University choruses were invited to participate in tonight's inaugural concert at Constitution Hall, it turned out that the Gala at the National Guard Armory needed a chorus.

Catholic University was asked to participate and it gladly made its own fine mixed chorus available.

But the Gala committee decided that it could not be introduced at tonight's program as "The Catholic University Chorus." The reason: What with Georgetown and Howard U. groups singing at the concert, it would focus too much attention on minority groups.

So it will be presented simply as the "Area Chorus."

The carpentry shop in the

House Office Building is looking upon the inauguration with a jaundiced eye. Scores of congressmen have sent down photographs for framing so they can hang them on their wall and impress constituents here for the ceremonies. Most of the pictures show the congressmen posed with Mr. Kennedy or Mr. Johnson at some point during the campaign. Even if the carpenters worked around the clock, they couldn't finish the job before next month.

Confusion over inaugural ball tickets was still a big headache today.

Even Jim Farley couldn't get his. Hundreds of big and little shots were in the same fix.

The one-time Postmaster General and Democratic National Chairman went after his personally. He had ordered seven. He climbed a narrow flight of stairs to ticket headquarters. The doors were jammed. People were pleading for their tickets; some were threatening to "see my congressman about this." Phones flashed furiously—and were ignored.

Mr. Farley's trip was in vain. "We're sorry, Mr. Farley, your tickets aren't here. They're being processed. Please call back later."

How much does it cost to take in the inaugural? A San Antonio appliance dealer calculated his travel, hotel, gala, ball, etc. will come to \$800 or \$900—"of course, not counting what my wife paid for her ball gown."

The Las Vegas mounted sheriff's posse will leave a memento of their third appearance in an inaugural parade. It's an 18-month-old mountain lion they've brought along as a mascot.

"We're giving it to the Washington Zoo," said Jack Pepper, the posse's press agent.

The Party's Over Dept.: Tho the inaugural balls don't end until 2 a. m., Mr. Kennedy has passed the word that he expects his key aides to show up for work promptly at 9 a. m. Saturday.